

[REDACTED]
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27 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6853

1. Mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1330 hours, 23 February 1968.

2. Mission Data:

- 25X1
- a. Mission Number: BX6853
 - b. Date Flown: 19 February 1968
 - c. Area of Operation: North Korea
 - d. Mission Success: Successful
 - e. Pilot's Name: [REDACTED]
 - f. Aircraft Number: 127
 - g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
 - h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0205Z
Actual: 0159Z
 - i. Landing Time - Planned: 0536Z
Actual: 0538Z
 - j. Time Enroute - Planned: 3+31
Actual: 3+39
 - k. Departure Base: Kadena Air Base
 - l. Landing Base: Kadena Air Base
 - m. Equipment:

25X1

[REDACTED]

(2) Spare: Same as primary.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

OXCART/TRINE

3. Operations:

- a. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory.
- b. Plans-Route (Actual vs. Planned): Satisfactory.
 - (1) Total INS Nav Time: 4+06 Hours
 - (2) INS Terminal Error: 6.4 Nautical Miles
 - (3) INS Spec Error: 9.0 Nautical Miles
- c. Tactics (Planned vs. Actual): Pilot took off six minutes early due to B-52/KC-135 takeoff time conflict.

4. Weather:

- a. Forecast vs. Actual: as briefed.
- b. Observed Cloud Condition by Pilot: West Coast cloudy.
- c. Comments: Forecast CAT II. 88 percent of programmed targets were cloud free.

5. Materiel:

- a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory.
- b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory.
- c. Camera Systems:
 - (1) Quality of Take: Satisfactory. Exposure is good. Contrast is good. Exposure appears to be of sufficient spread so that specific targets can be highlighted when reproducing dupe positives from original negative.
 - (2) Resolution: Imagery is as good as previous North Korea mission (BX6847) except where degraded by atmospheric.

(3) Camera Operation: Satisfactory. No malfunction noted.

6. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

- (1) 65 of 75 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 1 SSM target covered
- (3) 69 of 120 COMIREX targets covered
- (4) 11 SAM sites, 8 sites occupied, 2 ID only
- (5) 88 bonus targets
- (6) Comments: The mission obtained good coverage of the southern two-fifths of North Korea. Haze and snow cover hampered interpretation in the mountainous area.

c. Significant Findings: None.

d. EWS Activations: None.

e. Take Movement:

(1) Photography: Satisfactory.

(3) Comments: The pilot's film strip was misplaced in the Headquarter's Signal Center.

7. Communications:

- a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory.
- b. Satisfactory.
- c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory.

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8. Significant Actions Taken:

25X1 a. DTFC has established procedure to preclude future B-52/KC-135 takeoff time conflicts [REDACTED]

b. Film strip delivery and accountability procedure is being reviewed and appropriate action is being taken to preclude recurrence on future take deliveries.

9. Outstanding Actions Required:

25X1 a. At alert briefing for next North Korean mission, determine location of U.S.S.R. fleet in Sea of Japan. Adjust EWS and camera turn on to gain maximum intelligence (Intelligence Division, OSA; Office of Scientific Intelligence).

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
Colonel, USAF
Chief, OXCART Division, Operations, OSA

25X1 OXC/O/OSA/[REDACTED]pm

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